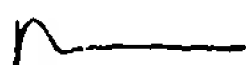



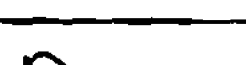







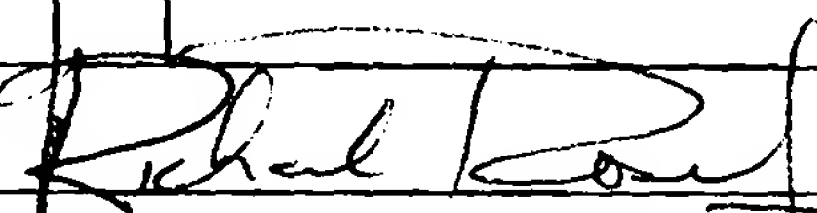


Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 109590		APPLICATION NO. 09/863,512	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Fusao SHIMIZU et al.			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; display: inline-block; transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">             OIP JUL 18 2002 JC98 PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE           </div>				FILING DATE May 24, 2001		GROUP 2859	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	1	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1	5,291,025	03/01/1994	Smith			
	2	5,929,766	07/27/1999	Rochet et al.			
	3	4,583,847	04/22/1986	Battig et al.			
	4	5,798,532	08/25/1998	Linehan			
	5	5,092,557	03/03/1992	Sawatzki			
	6	5,944,475	08/31/1999	Bonora et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	7	EP 0 387 164 A1	09/12/1990	EUROPE			
	8	JP 2001 189371 (Abstract only)	07/10/2001	JAPAN			
	9	DE 197 52 509 A1	07/01/1999	GERMANY			
	10	JP 11 297797 (Abstract only)	10/29/1999	JAPAN			
	11	WO 99 16121 (w/Abstract)	04/01/1999	WIPO			
	12	JP 04 075361 (Abstract only)	03/10/1992	JAPAN			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED 4 Sept 2003		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: July 18, 2002